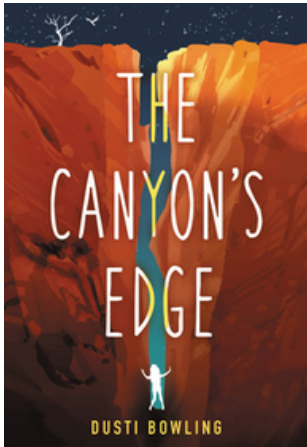


LWC 2023 Recommended Reads

1st Form



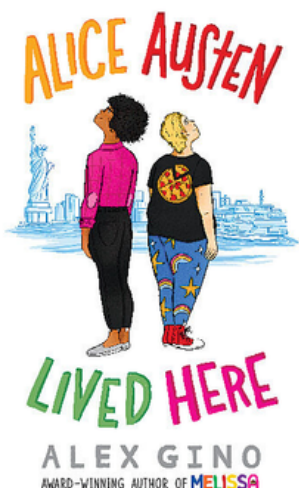
The Canyon's Edge by Dusti Bowling

Nora is hiking in the searing heat of the desert with her dad, when the unthinkable happens and she is stranded in the canyon. She must overcome both physical and psychological obstacles if she is to survive. Written mostly in verse, this tense and fast-paced read will keep you on the edge of your seat!



Following Frankenstein - Catherine Bruton

Bankrupt and obsessed with Frankenstein's Monster, Maggie's father sets out to find him once more. Maggie is determined to follow and change their fortune. A rich mix of historical reference and a spectacular cast of characters combine in this sweeping adventure that crosses continents.



Alice Austen Lived Here - Alex Gino

Sam and TJ are non-binary and very comfortable with their queer identities. Their teacher seems to think that only Dead Straight Cis White Men played important roles in history so when their homework is to design a statue of an important local figure, Sam and TJ see an opportunity to educate their teacher and their local community. But will the school and the contest judges be ready to acknowledge the area's queer history and embrace the differences in its present?





Maggie Blue and the Dark World - Anna Goodall

Darkly magical while touching on realistic truths in life, this is the tale of Maggie Blue and her one-eyed talking cat, Hoagey. When Maggie Blue witnesses her bully, Ida, being taken into a parallel world where happiness is of most value, she is determined to rescue her.



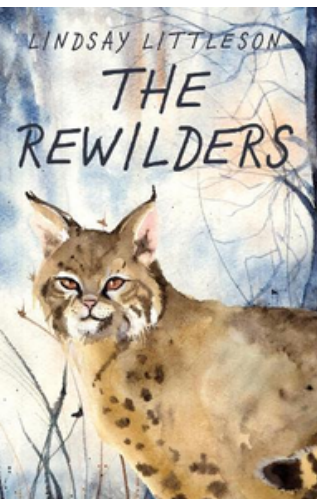
Spark - Mitch Johnson

A gripping page turner. Ash wakes up one morning in Last Village to discover everyone, except the stranger who appeared the night before, have vanished. The last stream in the village has dried up and without water how will they survive? Determined, the children battle on as they fight betrayal, climate catastrophe and discover what it means to be brave. The world, no matter how barren is still worth saving.



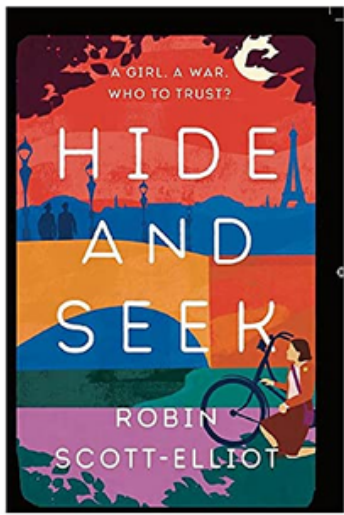
The Monsters of Rookhaven - Padraig Kenny

Mirabelle lives in Rookhaven, a house full of monsters, each with their own quirks and oddities but they are a family. When a protective magic portal to the property is breached, first by two troubled children and then by a menacing stranger, Mirabelle is forced to question everything she knows. A fantastic eccentric, gothic-tinged novel which also manages to say a lot about pain, loss, and belonging.



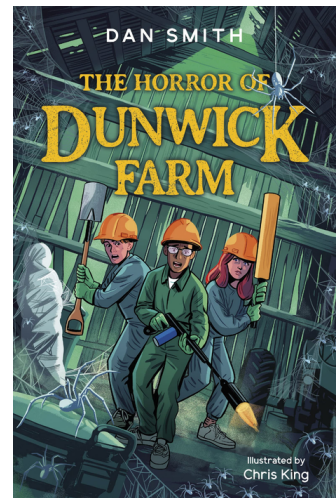
The Rewilders - Lindsay Littleson

Callum and Esme do not like each other at all at school. But when Esme's gran accidentally steals a lynx kitten from a rewilding project in the Scottish Highlands, they are thrown together in a dangerous attempt to return it home. Will they be able to put their differences aside to help save the lynx?



Hide and Seek - Robin Scott-Elliott

Amélie is a Jew living in Paris in 1942 and one day her whole family disappears. She has to use her wits to avoid being captured by the Germans. Amélie is taken in by a kind woman, who turns out to be a Resistance fighter and Amélie begins to help them. It's exciting – until they learn they have been betrayed. One adventure after another finds Amélie continuing to try and 'do her bit' for the Resistance and discover what has happened to her family.



The Horror of Dunwick Farm - Dan Smith

When a series of unsettling events occur following a mysterious plane crash, an inquisitive and enterprising group of friends are determined to investigate. Together they make some startling discoveries. An enjoyably fast paced and scary quick read adventure, unless you don't like spiders!



Windrush Child - Benjamin Zephaniah

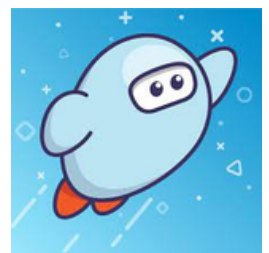
Leonard's father takes the opportunity to go to the UK on the Windrush ship from Jamaica to build a better life for his wife and child. Ten years later they follow him to England. Life in England is hard for Leonard, the food is awful, it's cold and wet and he misses his grandmother and on top of that not everyone in Manchester is happy to see a black face in their city.



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